Chemist & Druggist

May 4 1974 THE NEWSWEEKLY FOR PHARMACY

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Care group drops use of 'chemist'

Potential of veterinary pharmacy

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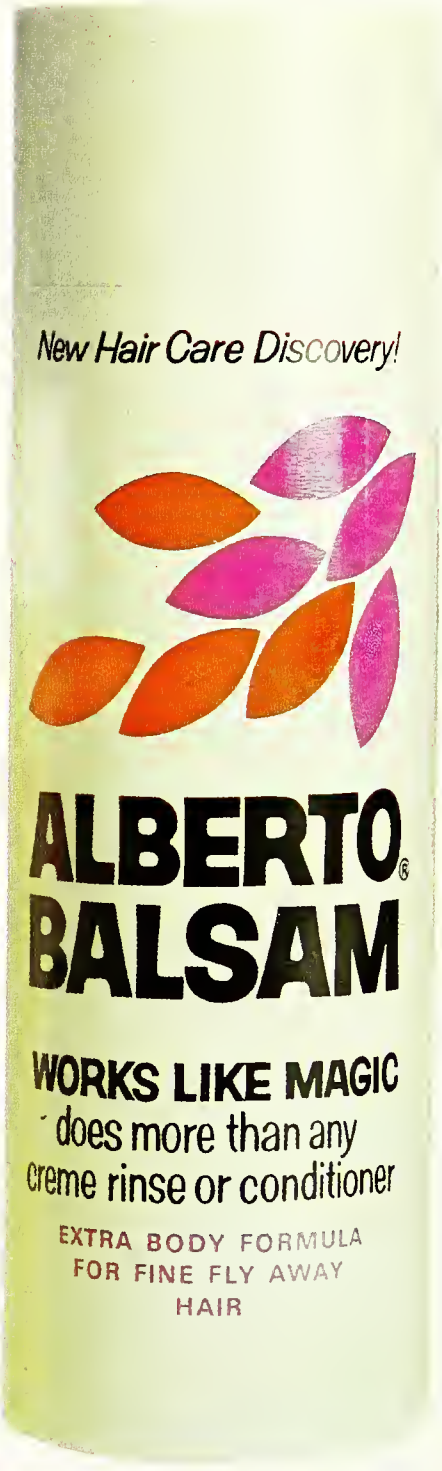

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Chemist & Druggist

The newsweekly for pharmacy

4 May 1974 Vol. 201 No. 4911

115th year of publication

Contents

Comment ☐ Veterinary sales	541
Council member indicts OTC medicines industry	542
"Chemist" to be dropped from Care advertisements	543
NCT calls for a check on doctor dispensing	543
Interim "prescription only" Order	543
Vice-president warns of "rough time" ahead	544
The Xrayser column: Shrugging off	545
Lords reserve judgment on Roche case	546
Reply on NI planned distribution	551
Unsupervised sales: pharmacist couple "flouted law"	552
Helping pharmacists expand veterinary business	553
Irish licensing regulations for manufacturers?	554
C&D Directory amendments	554
Glaxo pressed for progressive salary scales	555

Bonus Offers 549	News in Brief 545
Coming Events 555	On TV Next Week 549
Company News 555	People 545
Deaths 545	Postscripts 541
Letters 541	Prescription Specialities 548
Market News 556	Trade News 549
New Products 548	*Classified Advertisements* 557

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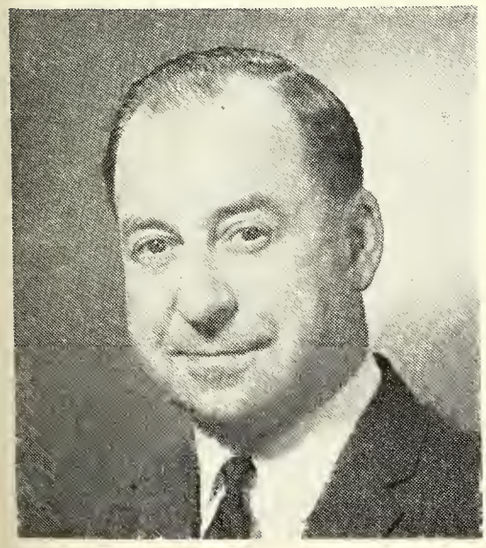

Mr W. A. Beanland "takes on" the industry (see p 542)

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Comment

Veterinary sales

In three years' time, according to Medicines Commission proposals, certain veterinary medicines at present on unrestricted sale will be brought under the control of pharmacists. The current practice of hawking them by vans from farm to farm by unqualified persons would come to an end, but at the same time the pharmacist retailer will have to be prepared to deal responsibly with a new situation—or, as a speaker said at Longtown last week, one which existed about 20 years ago when most animal medicines were obtained from the pharmacy (see p. 553).

Times, of course, have moved on from there; new products, new appliances, new terminology and new thinking have often replaced those in existence at that time. Now many pharmacists in rural areas may have the opportunity to increase their turnover substantially in this area, but if they have been outside the sphere of this activity recently they must bring themselves up to date as soon as possible.

But how to do this? That is the question currently occupying the Agricultural and Veterinary Pharmacy Group of the Pharmaceutical Society. Meanwhile group members have been afforded an opportunity to visit two successful pharmacies in this specialised field, to talk with their owners and to hear of the advantages and pitfalls of the practice. Those pharmacists not yet members of the group and interested in extending into veterinary and agricultural practice should join without delay. They can learn much from their colleagues.

Already the National Farmers Union is understood to be among the vigorous opponents of the proposed sale restrictions, and pharmacists can only hope to win their (necessary) support by proving themselves knowledgeable, helpful—and most importantly, able to "deliver the goods". The next three years must not be looked upon as a period of "grace" for the unqualified traders, but as a time of preparation for the profession during which expertise is updated where necessary and the service potential expanded.

Letters

Chemists' big stick

Mr T. P. Astill is reported as saying to the BPSA conference that retail pharmacists do not have a "big stick" with which to beat the Government over NHS remuneration and terms of service.

With the greatest of respect, nothing could be further from the truth; we have had a big stick in our possession for some time now but have failed to realise it. Remember the notable success achieved by the doctors when they refused to sign sick notes? Not apparently a very big stick, but it upset the Civil Service and worked much better than their previously threatened total withdrawal from the NHS.

We should announce that the combined effects of prescription charges and rising overheads are crippling chemists and that we want the charges to be removed and our practice expenses met directly, the latter in exactly the same way as is done for general medical practitioners.

Failing Government compliance, we shall charge every patient 20p per item and issue every one of them with an EC57 so that they can claim a refund if eligible. Our own work would probably be simplified but the pressure on post offices and the DHSS would be immense, particularly bearing in mind the precautions against fraud which they would have to take with so many EC57's floating about.

I doubt if such action would be in breach of our terms of service and it is unlikely that effective action against us could be taken. At the very least prescription charges would be abolished to prevent us employing the gambit again and we would have achieved one of our objectives.

All we need is the will and determination to cast off our collective inferiority complex and this contemptible feeling that we are powerless against the Government. Others have shown that they can achieve a fair semblance of justice and so can we.

R. Gartside
Birkenhead

Survey reminder

Thank you for mentioning the North Metropolitan survey to collect facts about the role of the community pharmacist (p 528). Could I prevail upon you to print a letter from me asking those who have not yet sent in their replies to do so? Any who want another copy of the questionnaire may have one for the asking.

John G. Iles
14 Highbury Park, London N5

Post Scripts

Confusion compounded?

"It never rains but it pours! Currently defying the rage of the Pharmaceutical Society's Council (p. 543), the Care chemists group find their symbol is coveted by others. Or is it? Certainly *C&D's* first reaction when Goya's repackaged Care range arrived in the office was that it was rather familiar, but we were assured that the design had been

agreed as far back as December 1972, and that it had been to proof stage before the makers knew anything about the Care chemists' symbol. Nevertheless, Independent Chemists Marketing Ltd are inviting discussions on the subject (they feel that Goya's Care stands to lose rather than

gain by the similarity — non-Care chemists might react against the product, for example).

The trouble is that registering a common-use word like "care" presents problems, though ICML have registered their design. It just shows that if two designers are asked to "do something" with the same four-letter word, they may well come up with very similar ideas. . . .

☐ Also in the "coincidences-will-happen" department are two advertisements in the women's Press recently, one by 2nd Debut (*Woman & Home* April 19), the other by Endocil (*Woman's Weekly* April 27). Both use the same technique—text copy superimposed on a woman's face—and at first glance they're almost identical. Are designers *really* being produced on a conveyor belt these days?

Council member indicts OTC medicines industry

Mr W. A. Beanland challenged the proprietary medicine manufacturers during the pharmaceutical session of the Royal Society of Health Congress at Brighton last week.

He claimed that the patient had been so "jockeyed into a position" that he now accepts the present situation as satisfactory. The doctors, the OTC medicine manufacturers and the government had contributed to the present unsatisfactory situation. The theme for the session was "Self medication: in whose interest?" He had extended his remit by considering "Self medication: in whose interest should it be?"

In an ideal world there would be no self medication and therefore in this world there must be a compromise. "The 'therapeutic' explosion of the last 20 or so years has had the effect of reducing considerably the number of drugs available for free sale, while increased knowledge about the action of drugs has produced medical evidence of danger to health and life through the use of other old established treatments; some of these latter have been withdrawn from free sale by legislation, others by voluntary action on the part of pharmacists. For example drugs for slimming purposes, mercury teething powders, tranquillising drugs, glycerin of borax and honey of borax, preparations for menstrual disorders, and more recently, phenacetin. On all of these drugs action has been taken by the voluntary action of pharmacists "not always in their own self interest".

Dangerous now

He said that when the Pharmaceutical Society criticised the delay in controlling phenacetin ("if it is dangerous in 1975 then it is dangerous at the moment") the answer was that commercial considerations had to be considered in view of current production and stock holding. "It was gambling with the well-being of patients".

When he looked at what was desirable for the patient and compared it with what was happening Mr Beanland said he found he had to indict the industry. Their action had been against the interest of the patient.

102 different preparations of aspirin were advertised in 1972. One company was offering analgesic preparations in 12 different forms all promoted in different ways, yet all were virtually the same.

In his paper Mr Beanland added: "Yet aspirin, though undoubtedly effective, is far from safe. Statistics reveal that it causes 7,000 cases annually of people treated in hospital for vomiting blood, of whom several hundred die; it is reported to cause 500 people to develop severe kidney disease, many of whom die while others can be saved only by dialysis or transplants; it is quoted as an important cause of stomach ulcers and anaemia and a contributory cause of asthma and allergies. In the face of such statistics, it is difficult to make out a case for such proliferation of similar preparations, even allowing for the fierce competition that exists in this section of the industry."

Mr Beanland accepted that self medication would continue — but unintelligent self medication must not be allowed.

He criticised manufacturers seeking to maximise the number of outlets and complained of the erosion of legislation by interested parties so that the legislation virtually legalises current controls "which the White Paper condemns".

There were 13,000 retail pharmacists, experts in the action of drugs. Thought should be given and action taken to make full and intelligent use of them and take them out of the commercial competition into which they have been thrown so that there could be controlled self medication by the public.

Aspirin defended

Replying for the industry, Mr J. P. Wells, director Proprietary Association of Great Britain, refuted some of the "inaccurate and inflammatory" statements concerning aspirin. He claimed the statement that aspirin caused 7,000 cases annually of people treated in hospitals for vomiting blood was inaccurate. The 7,000 patients referred to, were those in whom no obvious cause was found for the bleeding. In nine published studies in which the proportion of aspirin takers has been determined among such patients the highest proportion of aspirin takers quoted was 69 per cent — and the lowest proportion quoted 25 per cent. "On this basis, the maximum possible number of bleeds associated with aspirin is approximately 4,600 and the lowest is 1,750 out of the 7,000 cases quoted."

Furthermore, he claimed there was no proof that in any of the cases, aspirin actually caused haemorrhage, since the same figures showed that at the least, 2,400 patients who bled were likely not to have taken aspirin, and at the most, 5,250 patients who bled were likely not to have taken aspirin.

While it was true that deaths occurred as a result of gastro-intestinal haemorrhage, the number of such deaths which could be associated in any way with aspirin was put into perspective by the statistics accumulated by the Committee on Safety of Drugs. Over a period of over 7½ years, there were only 25 reports of deaths from gastro-intestinal haemorrhage ascribed to aspirin.

The statement that aspirin causes annually 500 people to develop severe kidney disease, was incorrect. The *British Medical Journal*, March 30, 1974, published a leading article and two papers on the topic. The leading article stated that the two studies showed no evidence of any convincing association between progressive renal impairment and aspirin dosage. The first paper stated that aspirin rarely, if ever, caused analgesic nephropathy when prescribed alone in doses appropriate to the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. The second paper stated that the study showed that most people could take large quantities of salicylate without renal injury.

It was a popular misconception that self medication was increasing but statistics did not support that view — there had been a slight decline. The public would not buy medicines if there was nothing wrong with them.

Dealing with the sources of advice available to the public he said the manufacturers emphasised the prime importance of labelling. They recognised the pharmacist as a source of health education and reassurance, together with the family nurse and doctor. There was probably a need for more health education in schools. However in most instances no more advice was needed than that given on the label. He believed that self medication was not only in the pharmacist's interests as an important part of his business, but it was also in the interest of the public. The industry was aware of its responsibilities.

Chemists' goods in Government's 'sell cheaply' list?

Some chemists' lines are included in a list of items which retailers may be asked to sell cheaply, according to a report in *The Times*.

The article says that retailers will be allowed to choose from 17 lines—which include certain foodstuffs, soap, toothpaste, denture powder, sanitary pads and tampons, nappies and toilet paper—one item which will always have to be sold cheaply in every shop which stocks all the lines. Another group "of which some items must always be offered cheap in every shop that stocks them" includes certain other foodstuffs, baby foods, small batteries, tissues, cotton wool, and babies' plastic pants.

The article also states that Mrs Williams, Secretary for Prices and Consumer Protection, "has told the Confederation of British Industry and the Retail Consortium that if they do not co-operate with her plan to control grocery prices she will enforce it through the Prices Bill".

A spokesman for Mrs Williams' Department however told *C&D* that the article was "speculation" presumably based on statements from the Retail Consortium. He stressed that Mrs Williams had not made a final decision on price curbs at that time.

☐ The revised Price Code is to be published soon and is expected to include the recommendations put forward in the consultative document on reduction of profit margins (*C&D*, March 30, p. 358).

ICML to drop 'chemist' from advertising

Because of the continuing objections from the Pharmaceutical Society, NPU Holdings Ltd, which has a 50 per cent partnership in the National Pharmaceutical Union Care Chemist project, has decided that the title "chemist" should not be used in future Care advertising "in order to avoid any confrontation" with the Society.

The decision has the backing of the 17 Care wholesalers and will be adopted by the board of Independent Chemists Marketing Ltd, at its next meeting.

Objections to Care advertising, which started in January this year, have been made by the Ethics Committee of the Pharmaceutical Society which has maintained that the title "chemist" is restricted and should not be used in advertising.

Although the February advertising for Care included amendments regarded at the time as "important concessions" to the Society's demands, the Society has continued to object to the campaign on the grounds of "indirect advertising of professional services". In a letter to the Society, explaining the decision of NPU Holdings Ltd, Mr J. Wright, a director, said the board had had regard to "the diverse views" that exist in the profession. The letter added: "Future advertisements will, of course, carry the statement on the foot of each indicating sponsorship by Independent Chemists Marketing Ltd".

Since the Care scheme was launched some five months ago, more than 2,000 independents have joined the group, and national consumer advertising has been seen as an essential tool in its successful development. However, an NPU Holdings' statement concedes that many pharmacists support the views of the Society — though it maintains that "other pharmacists claim that the Society's case is restrictive to trade and is interfering in the cause of making the business of independent retail pharmacists more viable".

The next Care national consumer advertising campaign will appear during May.

NCT calls for check on doctor dispensing

The traditional chemists' shop is disappearing, Mr Stanley Bubb, a Parkestone, Dorset, pharmacist, warned the National Chamber of Trade annual conference at Eastbourne on Tuesday.

Mr Bubb told the 350 delegates that the growth of supermarkets, hypermarkets and cut-price drug stores had left the chemist increasingly dependent on prescriptions to remain in business.

The NHS clause on doctor dispensing (intended to alleviate hardship in the age before widespread use of the car) was being flagrantly abused by an increasing number of practitioners who now demanded the right to supply all medicines to all patients who lived more than a mile from a pharmacy, said Mr Bubb. Their dispensaries were subsidised by the government, "75 per cent of their overheads being paid directly by the Ministry", and might be staffed by persons without pharmaceutical qualifications. "If the country doctor is underpaid, then let him be paid properly, but not at the expense of the country-chemist", he declared.

Wider stock range

Mr J. Wright, director of the National Pharmaceutical Union, said the range of stock the average retail pharmacist held was far wider than that of the individual dispensing doctor. The professions should do the jobs they had been trained for.

By a large majority, the conference passed a resolution expressing concern at the reduction in number of pharmacies and calling on the Department of Health to "check this unfortunate tendency by removing the grossly unfair advantages now enjoyed by group dispensaries and medical practitioners".

Overseas representatives of Sterling Winthrop stop to study a visual examination of Fortral ampoules during their tape tour of the company's production units at Newcastle-upon-Tyne

Plant tour by tape

Plugged in to cassette tape players, 260 Winthrop medical representatives from 10 continental European countries toured Sterling-Winthrop production units, at Newcastle-upon-Tyne recently (see above).

The tape recorders were to overcome the problem of finding guides to conduct the tours in five different languages. Each visitor was provided with a set of tapes on which was recorded in the visitors' own languages an informative commentary on what they were seeing. This meant that the tours, which took most of the day, had to be carefully worked out and timed in advance, commentaries written, translated and recorded in each of five languages.

Dispensing doctors' pay

Dispensing doctors unable to purchase drug supplies at the higher (33⅓ per cent) discount offered by the NAPD in May 1973 should not receive any reduction in net remuneration.

The Department of Health has agreed to continue to reimburse these doctors at the previous rate of retail less 20 per cent and to base the calculation of remuneration on this higher cost basis, irrespective of the rate of reimbursement.

Interim prescription-only list effective May 19

Regulations laid before Parliament last week restrict the sale or supply of certain antibiotic, anti-inflammatory and anti-hypertensive agents not yet scheduled to only in accordance with a prescription.

The Medicines (Interim Prescription Only) (No 1) Order 1974 (HM Stationery Office, 9p) which comes into operation May 19, has been made pending the replacement of the present controls under the Pharmacy and Poisons and Therapeutic Substances Acts by the Prescription Only list under the Medicines Act. The latter is expected to come into effect next year.

The Department of Health say that the action has been taken "in the interests of safety" to ensure that the drugs are available only under the direction of a physician. Some of the drugs are only supplied to hospitals, however. The list is: Alclofenac; alphadolone acetate; alphaxalone; amantadine hydrochloride; aminocaproic acid; baclofen; benapryzine; betahistine dihydrochloride; bleomycin; bretylium tosylate; bumetanide; clofazimine; clomipramine hydrochloride; clonidine hydrochloride; clotrimazole; colaspase; cropropamide; crotethamide; cyclofenil; cytarabine.

Daunorubicin hydrochloride; diazoxide; dinoprost; dinoprostone; disopyramide; distigmine bromide; doxorubicin; fluorouracil; ibuprofen; heparin calcium; ketamine hydrochloride; ketoprofen; mazindol; metolazone; mithramycin.

Naftidrofuryl oxalate; naloxone hydrochloride; naproxen; natamycin; niridazole; oxprenolol hydrochloride; oxypertine hydrochloride; pancuronium bromide; practolol; propranolol hydrochloride; sodium cromoglycate; tamoxifen citrate; tranexamic acid; L-pyroglutamyl-L-histidyl-L-proline amide (thyrotrophin-releasing hormone).

Exceptions to the Order include the sale or supply of a medicinal product in the form of a cream containing clotrimazole; or sodium cromoglycate where the product is manufactured sold or supplied for use by being administered through the nose. Other exceptions include certain sales or supplies in hospitals or by general practitioners, wholesale dealings, or exportation.

North-west Regional conference, Blackpool

Vice-president warns of 'rough time' ahead

The spate of new legislation means that practising pharmacists are going to have "a rough time" in the future, Mr C. C. Stevens, vice-president of the Pharmaceutical Society, told the Society's North-west Region conference at Blackpool on Sunday.

Many of the problems arose from the Medicines Act, and the first to be mentioned by Mr Stevens was the "invidious" position of the general practice pharmacist in relation to the sale of substances which would be prescription-only when a medicine, but uncontrolled if regarded as chemicals. An example was potassium bromide — controlled as a sedative for a dog, saleable as a photographic chemical! "This is a field of serious responsibility and decision and it means that more than ever the pharmacist must make sure he knows why the customer wants a drug or chemical".

The Government had expected there would be only a few "chemicals" that required restriction, but Professor Beckett had caused "chaos" by pointing out that imipramine, which everyone thought was a drug only, was used also in chemical analysis. A situation could arise where drugs of addiction could be sold more freely than ever before if labelled for a "chemical" use.

Pharmacists would have an almost impossible task, Mr Stevens claimed. "It will be almost as difficult to run a pharmacy without breaking the law as to drive a car without breaking it." The speaker hoped the Society's inspectors would act as advisers for at least a couple of years (Mr Dale, chief inspector, later pointed out that the inspectors were "reasonable men" and that Council took the decisions to prosecute). Mr Stevens called upon manufacturers to assist the pharmacist by printing distribution and supply restrictions on all pre-packed products.

Supervision

Turning to the supervision of medicines sales in pharmacies, he said that Council's hope that supervision would be applied to all sales was unrealistic. A regular customer who came in while the pharmacist was at lunch could not be sent next door to the supermarket if she was in a hurry — the multiples certainly would not see their customers go elsewhere.

Registration of premises had now been taken over by the government, and Mr Stevens warned that if a registration was allowed to lapse, the owner might be required to submit plans as though it were a "new" pharmacy. The delay might mean weeks when the pharmacy could not operate as such.

The vice-president also foresaw the government taking over more administration of the Act — he would be sorry to see the Society lose its powers, but it was the "odd man out" in Europe. The EEC Accession Act had given the government power to harmonise British law with Europe by Regulation — without bringing legislation before Parliament. This was happening in relation to product registration, but Mr Stevens reminded the conference that there was also a draft directive on planned distribution.

Next Mr Stevens criticised the use of Section 62 of the Medicines Act — which had been intended for emergency control as was necessary with LSD — to control hexachlorophane. It had been a sledgehammer to crack a nut since it was voluntarily controlled already by manufacturers and pharmacists. It had apparently been done so that the Minister could tell Parliament "we've done the job". Now Section 62 was to be used to control drugs which were "in limbo" (see p. 543); instead these should be placed in Schedule 4 or the prescription-only list speeded up.

Phasing out

Mr Stevens also attacked the length of the prescription-only and general sale lists (which left pharmacists little worthwhile to counter-prescribe), and the potency and danger of animal medicines that unqualified traders would be able to sell for the next three years. It was a pity a period ("10 years if you like") had not also been fixed during which all medicines would be phased out from unqualified channels.

Answering questions he pointed out the failure of many pharmacies to appear different from drug stores to the man in the street. Mr Dale, in his paper, supported this view saying: "If your premises look like ordinary shops, that is the image you will create". Mr Dale, however, thought that pharmacists would be affected more by NHS reorganisation than by the new medicines legislation and, countering a point made by Mr Stevens on the growth of drug stores he believed that the general sale list was not the cause — "They've been doing very well under the present arrangements".

Mixing hospital and general practice pharmacy on NHS reorganisation committees could just as easily lead to friction as to harmony, Mr A. Medcalfe, secretary to Lancashire Area Chemist Contractors Committee, told the conference. He felt it a bad thing to mix the two branches which had "virtually nothing in common"; and although he hoped there would be no dominant element in the committees, if there were one it must be general practice.

Hospital area pharmaceutical officers had been "wished onto us", and Mr Medcalfe felt it had always been wrong for the Society and others to make out a case for a separate post (the job specification was "largely padding and wishful thinking", and he doubted if the available salary could have attracted the right personnel). His suggestion had been that th ACCC secretary be designated "ar pharmaceutical officer (general practice on a part-time basis and the post allowe to develop gradually.

Mr Stevens addresses the conference

Mr Medcalfe also foresaw problems the community health councils were us by local politicians as stepping stones the area health authority. "I can see mar of us being very busy in the weeks pri to elections", he added.

Mr N. Blacow, Manchester Region pharmacist, disagreed saying that th area pharmaceutical committee would a very active body. Pharmacy should nev again be in a position to say that it wasn consulted — but it would be up to cor mittee members to ensure pharmacy's voi was heard.

In his paper, Mr Blacow said the pha maceutical officers would be privy to mu information that committee membe would not otherwise have before ther The new machinery offered formal cha nels for expert advice to the authoriti and their officers, comment from the pr fessions, testing the acceptability of pr posals and the evolution of proposals wi the assistance of the professions. "Ha we had anything like this before? No said Mr Blacow, "I hope you will a co-operate to see the purpose of the a visory committees is fulfilled".

Dr T. D. Whittet, chief pharmacist the Department of Health, described th work of his division—and its growth fro a staff of nine under the chief medic officer in 1967, to more than 70 now!

Advice not quantified

In the discussion reference was made the lack of quantifying evidence on pha macists' advisory role, and Mr Medcal said it should be recognised by registrati of patients with pharmacies, with a cap tation fee forming part of the remuner tion. He also hoped the new NHS orga isation would overcome the problem fac by general practice that on Saturdays a sources of information were closed. M Blacow referred to the provision of a 2 hour pharmaceutical service ("the RHA wanting to deal with this as a priority" but some members objected because do tors were paid to provide emergency drug

Mr Medcalfe wished to see pharmacis receive similar treatment to doctors practical training—a fee for the train and the student's salary paid by the D partment.

People

fessor Melvyn Howe is to present the d Macmorran lecture on October 13 "The geography of disease".

M. Millward BPharm, MPS, has re-ned his position as superintendent phar-cist of Coventry & District Co-operative emists Ltd.

S. Ackers, MPS, Swanscombe, Kent, been awarded the Meritorious Service blem and Certificate of the St John nbulance Brigade for exceptional ser-es in attending the sick and injured. s is the highest honour that the St John nbulance can give to its members. Mr kers, by means of heart massage and uth-to-mouth resuscitation, revived a naged girl who had been trapped and for dead in a car crash (*C&D*, October 1973, p 539).

A. McGuckin, FPS, managing director Mawson & Proctor Pharmaceuticals l, retired at the end of April.

Mr McGuckin commenced at Mawson & octor Ltd, Grainger Street, Newcastle a "probationer" in 1926 and then as apprentice in 1927. After qualifying in 2 he rejoined the firm as a dispenser, n as laboratory manager until 1938 en he was appointed general manager. was in 1938 also he was elected a mem- of the local branch committee on ich he has served ever since, being irman on two occasions and secretary about 13 years. He was appointed naging director of M&P in 1940. The olesale activities by 1948 had become great that it was necessary to remove t part of the business to a separate mises, the wholesale firm being re-ned Mawson & Proctor Pharmaceuti-s. He continued as managing director both companies until the retail side ned with about 40 chemists in the area become Mawson Proctor (Group armacy), of which company he was irman and will continue as such for ne time. He was designated a fellow of Pharmaceutical Society in 1966.

Mr McGuckin intends during retirement continue researches into the history of armacy and medicine in the North-east d to pursue his hobbies of painting and haeology.

eaths

arke: recently, Mr Joseph Clarke, MPS, rmerly of 27 Castlewood Road, Ful-od, Sheffield 10. Mr Clarke qualified 1925. Until he retired due to ill health was in private retail practice in Shef-ld and before that in Epworth, nr Don-ster.

oward. On April 24, after a long illness, rs Mary Rosalinda Howard (nee Smith), range House Farm, Alderley Edge, eshire wife of Mr Philip Howard PS (home and European market director, I Ltd, pharmaceuticals division). Mrs oward qualified as a pharmacist in 1937 d retired from the register in 1971.

lney: Suddenly on April 12, Mr John lbert Olney, managing director, Olney rothers Ltd.

Topical reflections

BY XRAYSER

Shrugging off

Two matters of interest arose at the April meeting of Council, although it may be that it was only one matter reported under two separate headings. The first concerned a resolution which came before last year's meeting of Branch Representatives asking that pharmaceutical manufacturers should supply small packs of galenical preparations to obviate unnecessary stock-holding by general practice pharmacists. The Society's Council passed the problem to the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry, whose reply suggested that it was not one which aroused their interest or concern.

I have, in fact, frequently been glad of a good, early training which has not been allowed to lie fallow over the years, and of a high shelf on which there still reposes the necessary apparatus to refurbish the skills. But that, I have discovered, is not all, for the wholesalers who no longer manufacture have ceased to keep supplies of the ingredients required by the do-it-yourself galenical maker, and then the skills and the resourcefulness reach an impasse.

Reduced demand

It is, of course, true that the demand for galenicals has dropped considerably, but there still are prescribers who do not invariably use a proprietary medicine and who dip into the National Formulary. And time has not completely removed those who knew another world and another materia medica, and it remains the duty of the pharmacist to carry out the wishes of what, I have little doubt, are regarded as anachronisms by today's "clinical executives".

I wonder if it was the same problem which caused Mr S. C. Jolly (director of the Society's Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences) to ask whether the pharmaceutical laboratory in Edinburgh could not give a service by manufacturing small quantities of certain pharmaceutical "specials". It appears that the Council's Science Committee considered that such a service could best be developed by hospital pharmacy and not by the Society. So one more door is closed, and I cannot see why the hospital service, understaffed as it is, should be expected to undertake work which nobody else seems to want to do. I would like to know if the Science Committee has asked for and obtained the consent of the hospitals to the carrying out of the work envisaged, and if so if the hospitals are fully prepared to give the service right away.

Problems of the kind were unknown when our wholesalers were wholesale *and* manufacturing chemists, each with a staff of pharmacists, and each offering facilities which no one now considers necessary. In the course of my work, I occasionally find I have to carry out some function which is in the nature of a public service—but I have no time-and-motion accountants to say me nay. I do it, for it is a duty.

News in brief

☐ Manufacturers caught adulterating drugs or medicines in India could be jailed for life under a new Indian law according to a Press report.

☐ "Coping with disablement" (1·25) is now available from Consumers' Association, Caxton Hill, Hertford, Herts. The book deals with the non-medical aspects of disablement, including services available from the NHS.

☐ "Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology & Physiology" is a new bi-monthly journal published by Blackwell Scientific Publications Ltd, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0EL (annual subscription £18·00; single issues £3·50). The journal is to include original research papers and occasional review articles.

Roche: Lords reserve judgment

The gravamen of the Roche case against the Monopolies Commission was that the least the Commission could do was to put to the group the criteria ultimately adopted for cutting research costs, Mr R. A. MacCrindle QC, for Roche, told the House of Lords last week. "Our complaint is that in saying that our profits are too high because we are overdoing our research, the Commission have not suggested how it should be cut, whether it was possible to cut it, or by what standard it should be cut".

Mr MacCrindle was continuing his opening submissions (see last week, p 502) in the appeal by the Roche Group—F. Hoffman-La Roche of Switzerland, Sapac Corporation of Uraguay and Roche Products of Welwyn Garden City, Herts—arising out of proceedings brought by the Group claiming declarations that a Monopolies Commission report, on which a Government order was based cutting the price of Librium and Valium, was unfair.

Mr MacCrindle argued that the Minister was not enabled by Section 10 of the Monopolies and Relative Practices (Inquiry and Control) Act, 1948, simply to act on a conclusion of the Commission, however valid or sound.

Mr MacCrindle said that the Crown had issued a summons seeking to have Roche's claim struck out as failing to disclose a reasonable cause of action. On the face of the matter there was a plausible argument, which might or might not succeed, for saying that this Order, although it bore no brand of invalidity on its forehead, was open to attack. If the Roche companies succeeded then, without the protection of an undertaking, they would have suffered huge losses which would be irreparable because the patents would be expiring next year.

Flagrant feature

Counsel said the case had a "special and almost flagrant feature". The Crown "did not stop at seeking to enforce what was ostensibly the law but was also seeking to effect a saving at Roche's expense if the Crown turned out to be wrong". He urged that the finding of the Master of the Rolls in the Court of Appeal—that since the Government Order was in the form of a Statutory Instrument and had been approved by resolution of both Houses then it was as effective as a statute and could not be challenged—was a wrong view. Counsel said a statute could only be made by the Sovereign in Parliament.

Sir Peter Rawlinson QC, contesting the appeal on behalf of the Secretary for Trade and Industry, said there were two heads of complaint against the Monopolies Commission proceedings. The first was that the Commission had acted contrary to natural justice, the allegation being that it was unfair not to put to Roche the criteria on which the Commission placed their judgment that Roche had unfairly loaded their selling price to include the cost of research and, secondly, that the Commission and the Minister had imputed an "improper purpose" because they had imputed a purpose of counter-balancing excessive profits in the past.

On Monday this week, Sir Peter said it was fortuitous that it would be the Department of Health which would be able to save a large amount of public money when buying the drugs. The various Crown Departments had an interest in all sorts of commodities, and Parliament must have contemplated that the Crown should be the major arm of enforcement of monopolies legislation.

The Law Lords reserved their decision.

USDAW rejects report on trading hours

On Tuesday the annual conference of the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers rejected a union working party's report on shop trading hours and the working week. The report's findings reveal a general trend towards late opening up to 8 pm on two nights a week and a growth in the number of six-day trading areas. Other findings were:—

☐ Where six-day trading is in operation it has generally been associated with an improved five-day working week, allowing staff two consecutive days off, inclusive of Saturday on a rota basis. The working party see the question as how the 40-hour five-day working week could best be operated within the 60-hour trading week operated in many sectors. The union is also pressing for a 35-hour working week.

☐ The trend in retailing in recent years has been to concentrate trading into fewer and larger outlets. By 1980 there would be few counter service shops of any size left in the grocery trade. On manpower turnover, a 1971 survey had revealed that of 200,000 sales assistants recruited l 1,600 firms in one year, only 110,000 r mained in their original employment months later.

In rejecting the report, conference del gates called for a cut in opening hou suggesting that all evening opening scrapped, and felt that shoppers should "re-educated" to accept earlier closin Earlier in the conference they voted press for a £5 a week rise in basic p rates.

More hypermarkets to ge planning permission?

The Labour Government may "look mo kindly" on hypermarket developmen according to last week's *Grocer*.

Mr Alan Williams, Minister of Sta for Prices and Consumer Protection, w made a private visit to Carrefour hyp market at Caerphilly, is quoted as sayin "I think the public want this sort of sho ping facility. There have been many co plaints about the Caerphilly hypermark and indeed about other such stores arou the country, but many small shopkeepe work on a small profit margin and worried about anything which threate to take their livelihood."

Mr Williams was said to be "relieve to find that Carrefour had not harm trade in the town and he maintained th more hypermarkets would be bu throughout the country. "I am glad to any commercial venture which can o goods to the public cheaper than its co petitors," he added.

Mr Aylett Moore, managing director Wheatsheaf Distribution Ltd, the co pany who operate the Carrefour hyp market, is said to have told *Grocer*: "It extremely encouraging that a Minister volved in prices and consumer protecti recognises the value to the community hypermarkets. It is now up to planni authorities to act in the light of th statement."

Safety containers: pharmacists' views attacked

Pharmacists had turned down the suggestion of safety containers for medicines "for one good reason, one poor reason, and one wrong reason," said Mrs Jill Knight MP on Tuesday.

Introducing the Safety Packaging for Medicines Bill in the Commons, Mrs Knight said the good reason was that it was wrong to rest the safety of medicines on the parents' ability to pay. Pharmacists were not sure whether the containers really were child-proof anyway "which is a poor reason because, as America has proved, it is certainly not beyond the wit of man to produce containers which will totally baffle the normal child". They also thought it was best to continue with the campaign to educate the public instead — that was the wrong reason "because we can never do sufficient campaigning to ensure that all parents in all homes at all times will obey the campaign".

Mrs Knight drew attention to the poisoning of children — she thought aspirin was "the most guilty medicine". Some 85 per cent of homes kept aspirin handy and one estimate put the quantity of aspirin tablets taken in Britain as five tons a day. If a young child ate 30 children's aspirins it would be dangerous and may kill him.

There were several solutions to t problem of poisoning — including the u of child-proof medicine cabinets, to st up the campaign to educate parents throw out old medicines, and to dire drug manufacturers to stop maki medicines taste and look nice — but s was sure that the answer lay in legislati about safety packaging for medicines.

"All medicines which could be fatal children should be packed in child-pro or child-resistant containers," she sa Statistics from both the United Stat and Canada had shown that substant reductions — 90 per cent and 75 per ce in two instances—"result from mass u of safety containers."

Mrs Knight felt that the problems elderly and arthritic patients who h difficulty in opening medicines containe could be "ironed out". The Bill is come up for second reading on May 10.

☐ Mrs Joyce Butler MP has tabled Commons motion urging "a review of t steps to be taken to protect children fro adverse reactions" to immunisation a calling for a compensation scheme.

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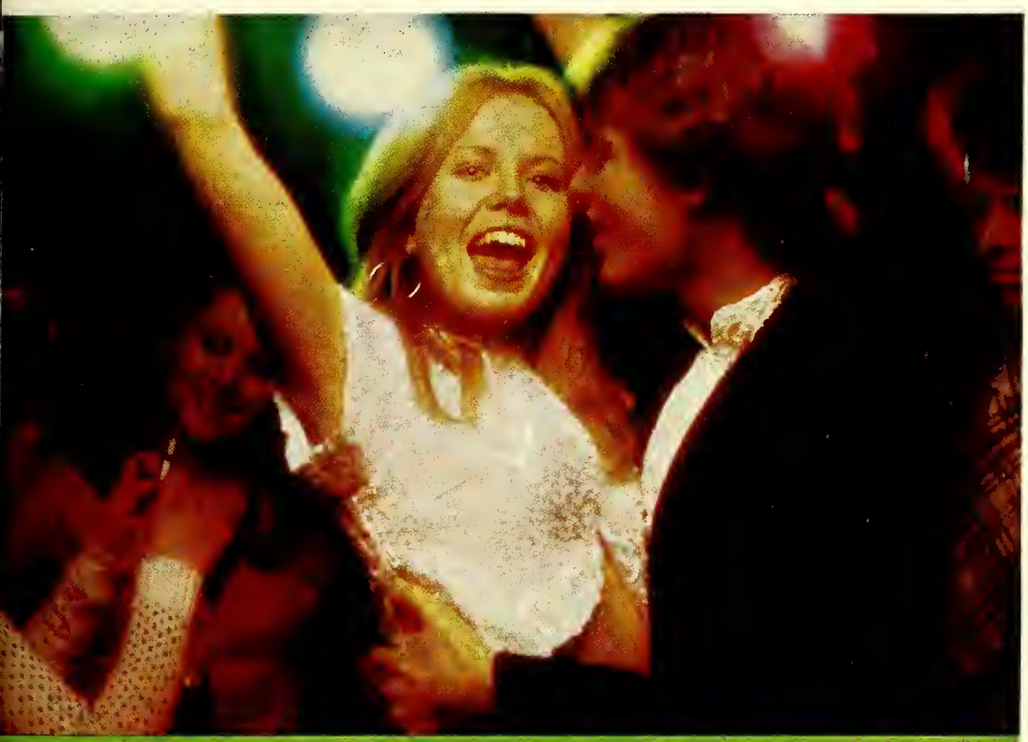

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New products

Babycare

Extra egg varieties

Heinz have added four new varieties to their baby food range. All based on fresh English eggs, they are: strained scrambled egg and Tomato breakfast, strained egg and ham savoury supper, strained scrambled egg and cheese supper, and junior scrambled egg and sausage breakfast.

These extra egg varieties incorporate ingredients that Heinz say have gained the highest scores in popularity ratings with mothers. Each meal is formulated to provide a baby with one-fifth or more of his daily protein requirement in an easily-digestible form. The new recipes are packaged in the yellow-labelled cans developed for the main meals and are available at the same price range.

Heinz are backing the launch with a 15-second commercial to be screened nationally during the first half of June. Advertising will be carried by women's magazines and the specialist mothercraft press and will run from mid-June to the end of 1974. The extra egg varieties will also be mentioned in all Heinz baby food literature, and will feature prominently in future editions of "From milk to mixed diet" (H. J. Heinz Co Ltd, Hayes Park, Hayes, Middlesex).

Electrical

Ronson battery shaver

"Long life and high performance" say Ronson, are features of their new battery-operated shaver. The shaver, RS65, (£8·50) gives up to four weeks use from a single set of batteries, and has the stainless steel shaving system and a micro thin foil with a hexagonal hole configuration to give a fast, close and smooth shave. It has a long hair trimmer with a push button control.

The shaver has an attractive, polished black finish, a recessed on/off switch, and comes in a lightweight sleeve that makes it ideal for travelling (Ronson Products Ltd, Randalls Road, Leatherhead, Surrey).

Cosmetics and toiletries

Skin care products

The first two products in a projected range of skin care products have been introduced by Care Laboratories. Sun filter cream (£0·30), developed from the Sombrero formula, provides sunburn protection and contains an insect repellant. And skin care soap (£0·15), a mild soap that contains no colourant and no perfume, is "safe for even the most sensitive skins".

As well as these new products, Care hand cream has been reformulated to have a smoother texture, and Octaphen has been added to aid the healing of badly chapped hands. The hand cream smoothes away dry skin, soothes sore hands and provides a barrier against the effects of the weather (Care Laboratories Ltd, Badminton Court, Amersham, Bucks).

Prescription specialities

FYBOGEL granules

Manufacturer Reckitt & Colman Pharmaceutical Division, Hull HU8 7DS
Description Flaky-granules of pale buff colour containing ispaghula husk BPC 3.5g. sodium bicarbonate EP, anhydrous citric acid BP per sachet
Indications Treatment of patients requiring a high fibre regimen
Contraindications Intestinal obstruction, colonic atony eg senile megacolon, May be contraindicated in patients on a salt restricted diet as each sachet contains 6 mEq sodium
Dosage Adults and children over 12—One sachet morning and evening, preferably after meals, to be stirred into a glass of water and taken as soon as effervescence subsides. Should only be given to children under 12 on medical advice
Storage In a cool dry place
Packs 30 sachets (£1·05 trade)
Issued April 1974

Trade News

stric offer discounts
ntil May 31, Vestric Ltd, Chapel Street, ıncorn, Ches, are offering two parcels Kodak films and cameras, plus other odak stock items, at discount prices. The fers are: pack "A" with 7 per cent dis- unt, consisting of 20 C126-12, 40 C126- , 20 C110-20, 20 C135-20, one Insta- atic 56X outfit, one Pocket Instamatic tfit, and one Pocket Instamatic 200 out- (trade price £75·84); and pack "B", with per cent discount, consisting of 20 C126- , 20 C126-20, 20 C135-20, 10 C110-12, d one Pocket Instamatic 100 outfit ade price £41·60).
A free Kodak dispenser unit will be pplied to those ordering either pack; y additional order of Kodak stock lines, ade when ordering one of the two deals offer, will receive the same discount.

ybarvin manufacturing difficulties
ybar Laboratories Ltd, St Ives House, laidenhead, Berkshire, regret that, as a sult of manufacturing difficulties, they e temporarily out of stock of Rybarvin halant. Apologies are extended to whole- le and retail pharmacists for the in- nvenience this has caused. It is hoped at supplies will be back to normal soon.
Until Rybarvin stocks are replenished ybar Laboratories suggest that doctors d patients consider the use of Rybarex halant, a similar product, indicated for e symptomatic treatment of bronchial sthma, bronchitis, hay fever and bron- ial catarrh.

entu-Creme selling aids
ew shelf-arresters and window or coun- r displays have been produced by Staf- rd-Miller Ltd, 166 Great North Road, atfield, Herts, for Dentu-creme. The elf-arresters have been designed to reflect the product pack and draw atten- on to the sales stock", and the 3-D units old the three pack sizes. Both are obtain- ble through the maker's representatives.
Stafford-Miller are also offering bonus rms for Dentu-Creme from April until ne; details are available from their epresentatives.

isma-Rex tablets temporary pack
s a result of delays in the supply of ppropriate packaging materials, Minne- ota 3M Laboratories Ltd say it has been ecessary to arrange for Bisma-Rex tablets be packed in labelled bottles in order maintain supplies of the product. They ress that this is only a temporary easure and a return to the normal anister pack will be made as soon as ossible.

otter & Clarke prices date
he new price structure for the following otter & Clarke Ltd pastilles (Price Sup- lement April 27) does not become effec- ve until May 13:— Potter's Catarrh, Potter's children's cough, Gee's linctus, menthol and eucalyptol, glycerin and blackcurrent, glycerin lemon and honey, glycerin of thymol.

Babymilk export packs
For the benefit of mothers taking their babies abroad, Cow & Gate Ltd, Guildford, Surrey, have made their Babymilks 1 and 2 in export packs. The milks are gas-packed in cans with a tear-top closure so that the powder is protected from the effects of the climate but it can be easily opened. The top has a pull-ring to lift off cleanly, and each can is supplied with a plastic lid to cover the contents after the tin has been opened. The Babymilk 1 comes in a 14-oz size (£0·83), Babymilk 2 is in a 10-oz size (£0·59).

Corangil packs
A new Securitainer pack of 100 Corangil tablets (£0·90 trade) has been introduced by Duncan, Flockhart and Co Ltd, Birkbeck Stret, London E2 6LA. The company say stocks of the following packs are now exhausted: DF-188 25's, Paramol-118 25's, Corangil 50's.

New size of Birleys antacid
As from April 1 there is a new intermediate size Birleys antacid powder (£0·26). Supplies of the present two sizes will cease to be available when stocks are exhausted say Strenol Products Ltd, 53a High Street, Harlesden, London NW10 4NJ.

Ample supplies available
Parke-Davis & Co, Usk Road, Pontypool, Mon NP4 8YH, have announced that they now have ample supplies of both lather and brushless shaving cream and orders are being met.

Seton lower hospital prices
Seton Products Ltd, Medlock Street, Oldham, have reduced hospital prices by an average of 17 per cent in their Surgifix range of ready to wear dressings, including all their elastic net bandages in ready to wear form.

Unichem May offers
The following products are on special offer in May from Unichem Ltd, Crown House, Morden, Surrey: Camay, Head & Shoulders, Johnsons baby shampoo, cream and nappy liners, Natusan baby cream and soap, Rapid Shave, Saxin, Sunsilk hairspray, US antiperspirant, dry powder antiperspirant and bath liquid.

Bath gelee
The bath and shower gelee from Helena Rubinstein Ltd, 31 Davies Street, London W1Y 1FN, is priced at £1·70 (corrected note).

Bonus offers
Vestric Ltd, Chapel Street, Runcorn, Ches. Propa PH. 15 per cent off 12 bottles, 5 per cent off 6 bottles (until May 31).

on TV next week

Ln — London; M — Midland; Lc — Lancashire; Y — Yorkshire; Sc — Scotland; WW — Wales and West; So — South; NE — North-east; A — Anglia; U — Ulster; We — Westward; B — Border; G — Grampian; E — Elrean; CI — Channel Islands.

Alberto Balsam conditioner: All except B, CI
Alberto Balsam shampoo: All except B, CI
Alberto V05 hairspray: Ln, M, Lc, Sc, WW, So
Andrews liver salt: Ln, M, Lc, WW, So, NE, A, We
Askit: Sc
Aspro Effervescent: Ln
Cow & Gate baby meals: All except U, E, CI
Cow & Gate Babymilks: All areas except U, E, CI
Close-Up: A, B
Day Long: All except E, CI
Elnett hairspray: All areas
Fresh & Dry: All areas
Gillette G11: All areas
Harmony shampoo: All areas
Hedex: Ln, M, Lc, WW, So, NE, A, We, CI, B
Macleans Freshmint: All areas
Milk of Magnesia liquid: Ln, M, Lc, WW, So, NE, A, We, CI
Oil of Ulay: Y, Sc, So, NE, A, U, B
Pears soap: M, Lc, Y, Sc, WW, NE, B, G, CI
Right Guard: All areas
Spillers Choice Cuts: Y, NE, B
SR: All areas
Sunquick: So
Sunsilk hairspray: All areas
Three Wishes antiperspirant: All areas
Vosene: All areas
Wilkinson Sword Double Edge Blades: All areas

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Professional News

Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland

Planned service report: Department of Health replies

letter from the Department of Health ncerning the report on a planned phar- aceutical service for the province was scussed at the April Council meeting of e Pharmaceutical Society of Northern eland. The Society had submitted the port to the Department in July last year, e delay in replying had been caused by Departmental reorganisation".

The letter stated that a similar plan as been discussed by officials of the Phar- aceutical Society of Great Britain. The ew expressed by that department was hat the extent to which such controls ould benefit the patients is at best con- ctural and it must be remembered that it already possible to plan for a health ntre to include a pharmacy or for a harmacy to be established adjoining a alth centre. The Ministers decided (in abinet committee) therefore that it would t be right for the Government to take y powers for limiting of pharmacies". view of Westminster's view the North- n Ireland Department was unable to take y further action on the Council's report; the circumstances there would seem to e "no point" in arranging a meeting to iscuss the subject.

Several Council members commented on e Department's delay in sending a reply d one member said he did not think e purpose of the report was properly derstood in the Department. The report tempted to ensure a pharmaceutical ser- ice throughout the province, not just in reas of high population density.

acts

was agreed that the secretary should raw the Department's attention to the llowing facts—

] The Pemberton Committee established y the then Minister of Health, had in- luded in its report a recommendation at some statutory limitation should be nposed on the issue of contracts to pro- ide a pharmaceutical service under the Health Service's Acts. The report had been ccepted by the Minister.

] The Council's report had dealt with the hole of the province, district by district, nd not merely with areas of low popula- ion density.

] Since the report was submitted the num- er of pharmacies providing a pharmaceu- ical service had substantially decreased. t had been forecast and was likely to con- inue. Concern was expressed in the re- ort about certain areas in the west of the rovince but these would not support a ealth centre pharmacy if a health centre vere established.

] EEC draft directives include provisions or imposing some restriction on the open- ng of pharmacies in member countries. The draft directives are presently under onsideration by the European pharmacy *Groupement* and the principle of impos- ing some restriction on the geographical location of pharmacies is likely to be adopted by the nine member countries.

A letter from the Department of Health was read acknowledging receipt of the report of the Northern Ireland Branch of the Guild of Hospital Pharmacists on the grading of hospital pharmacists. The Department was presently considering all aspects of the grading of pharmacists under the Noel Hall scheme and a reply would be sent in due course.

Administrative officers

Another letter from the Department replied to the paper submitted by the Council and containing their views on the desirability of appointing pharmaceutical administrative officers in addition to the area pharmacists. The letter stated that so far as co-ordinating the activities of general practice pharmacists with hospital pharmacy is concerned, the department thought that whilst this function may develop in importance, for the foreseeable future the workload would fall short of what would be necessary to justify the creation of an additional grade of pharmaceutical administrative officer.

Arising out of the Finance Committee report Mr J. A. Boyle asked if it was intended to hold meetings throughout the province to explain to members the provisions of the Society Security Act 1973 relating to pensions for employers. Mr T. O'Rourke said it was a matter for the Ulster Chemists' Association. The National Pharmaceutical Union had made arrangements for pharmacists to receive advice and quotations. Application forms had already been sent out and were being returned direct to the insurance brokers concerned. Mrs C. B. A. Watson said that like Mr Boyle she felt members would benefit greatly from talks by experts.

The president Mr T. A. Gray, reported on the meeting of the Lurgan, Portadown and Armagh branch held in Lurgan on April 1. The officers and committee had been elected for the coming year and he was very pleased that Mr G. H. Duke, Richhill, had consented to act as chairman of the Branch. On the Council's behalf he had presented Mr Duke with a minute book and visitors book. The Branch's dinner was held after the meeting and Mr W. Gorman had given a talk entitled "Humour in Pharmacy". This was the most active of the Society's branches and he was sure the year ahead would be a successful one.

Mr O'Rourke reported on a meeting of representatives of the Council, Local Pharmaceutical Committee and Ulster Chemists' Association to discuss clause 5 of the standard conditions for health centre pharmacies and in particular the relation of the number of pharmacist directors to the average number of prescriptions dispensed per month. The purpose of the clause was to prevent the number of pharmacists in a consortium falling too low. Another meeting was being arranged soon.

Plan to ensure staff pharmacist on Area Committees

The Pharmaceutical Society's Scottish Executive has discussed the problem of a hospital pharmacist who was of staff pharmacist grade when elected to an Area Pharmaceutical Committee but had since been promoted, leaving no member of staff grade or below on that particular committee. It was decided that future voting papers should indicate the grade of each candidate and if only one member was elected at this grade or below, he or she would be disqualified from membership if promoted above staff grade.

It was agreed that the Pharmaceutical General Council (Scotland) and the Guild of Hospital Pharmacists should nominate no more than 10 pharmacists and each Area Committee to nominate not more than two pharmacists for the National Consultative Committee. The final selection would be agreed at the June meeting of the Executive.

The Scottish Home and Health Department has written to area health board secretaries proposing that the chief administrative pharmaceutical officer posts for the Greater Glasgow, Lothian, Grampian, Tayside and Highland boards should be filled by transfer of the respective regional hospital pharmacists, on the understanding that any officer so appointed should accept a joint appointment if it is finally decided that any of these boards should share a CAPO with other boards.

A letter is to be sent to SHHD stressing the need for a district pharmaceutical officer where a district executive group has been appointed.

Mr Roxburgh had been appointed chairman of a course committee responsible for pharmacy technician courses under the Scottish Technical Education Council. The committee would report to a sector committee on life science, of which Mr Roxburgh would also be a member. Discussions were taking place at Telford College of Further Education, Edinburgh, on a possible one-year full-time course for pharmacy technicians.

Plans for postgraduate courses, including the first full-time intensive refresher course for Scotland for the session 1974-75 at Strathclyde University, are to be discussed at a meeting on May 8.

Accommodation has been reserved in the Station Hotel and Queen's Hotel, Perth for October 12 for the Scottish pharmacists' conference. The charge for members resident overnight will be £9·40 (£10 with private bath), £2·75 for day members and £3·25 for the dinner and dance only.

A prescription collection and delivery service at Harthill, operated by pharmacists from Shotts, Blackridge and Whitburn, began on April 1. The Executive agreed that future organisation of such services should be the responsibility of the CAPO in consultation with the Area Pharmaceutical Committee and the Society's inspector or resident secretary.

It was reported that a meeting of the

Continued on p 552

Pharmacist couple 'flouted law' on unsupervised sales

A Brighton couple — both qualified pharmacists—had flouted the law relating to unsupervised sales, despite fair warning from an inspector, said Sir Gordon Willmer, chairman of the Pharmaceutical Society's Statutory Committee, last week.

Mr Charles Haycocks and his wife Bridget were before the Committee following their conviction at Brighton over the unsupervised sale of Part 1 poisons and allowing an unqualified person to have keys to the dangerous drugs cabinet at their Coombe Terrace Pharmacy in Lewes Road, Brighton.

The Committee postponed judgment for a year, but reprimanded Mr Haycocks on a further matter—his conviction over sales from unregistered premises and selling, on prescription, poisons not bearing the date of dispensing or the name and address of the supplier.

Sir Gordon said the first matter related to the couple's employment of a man from New Zealand who had, on various occasions, been left in charge of the Brighton pharmacy when Mr and Mrs Haycocks were working very irregular hours. The Committee had learned that the man had since been registered as a pharmacist and had returned to New Zealand.

The matter against Mr Haycocks alone arose out of his agreement to take over the Hove business of an elderly pharmacist. Mr Haycocks in fact took over on December 12, 1972, but the lease was not transferred until the following February, so it was assumed he was occupying the premises as licensee. He started business with Mrs Haycocks as pharmacist, but in January decided to discontinue the pharmacy and convert the premises to a drug store.

Mr Haycocks took no steps to have the premises registered in his name as a pharmacy until February 1973. He then made application for registration to be retrospective to cover the period it was operated as such, but the Society refused to accept the application. Use as a pharmacy ended during January, and the premises had now closed completely, the chairman added.

Co-operative Society reprimanded

The Lancastria Co-operative Society and two of its pharmacists were reprimanded by the Committee for permitting the sale of preparations containing Part 1 poisons without proper supervision. The preparations were bought by an inspector and agent at the company's shop in Friargate Walk, Preston last April. This led to the company being fined a total of £16 by Preston magistrates in September after pleading guilty to eight offences.

The Committee reached its decision after hearing evidence from Lancastria's superintendent pharmacist, Mr Roy Brothwell, and Mr Will Kirkham, the pharmacist in charge of the shop, and two inspectors of the Pharmaceutical Society.

Questioned by Mr John Maddox, for the Lancastria Society and the two pharmacists, Mr Henry Littler, one of the inspectors, denied that he had quarrelled with the company or with any of its officers and that that was the explanation for the action taken against them. In announcing the Committee's decision, Sir Gordon Willmer, the chairman, said that in their judgement Mr Littler was very well justified in the resentment he had shown to the allegation made against him.

It was a simple case. One of the reasons why the sales were not properly supervised was because of the rather difficult layout of the premises. The other reason—he regretted to say—was that until the events of this case it appeared that Mr Kirkham had not appreciated what "supervision" meant.

Censure for Blackpool pharmacist

A Blackpool pharmacist who stole more than £800 over three years while manager of the Church Street pharmacy of Lancastria Co-operative Society, was censured by the Committee.

Mr John Appleton admitted being convicted at Blackpool magistrates court in October 1973 of six offences of theft and six offences of false account. He had been fined a total of £240 and ordered to pay compensation amounting to £808·58. The court had also taken 213 similar offences into consideration.

The Committee accepted a plea on behalf of Mr Appleton that he should remain on the register after being told that he had lost his pension from the Co-op and would almost certainly lose his home if he could not continue practising.

Sir Gordon said that, striking as the size of the theft was, having heard the plea and having read the references submitted, the Committee was prepared to take the risk of leaving Mr Appleton on the register.

A pharmacist told the Committee that he falsified records of shop takings to cover up the theft of money from his briefcase. He was convicted of theft and falsifying records while manager of a multiple branch. Sir Gordon Willmer said the case amounted to "grievous dishonesty". In deciding what to do, one view was that there was no room in any profession for a man found guilty of this sort of dishonesty.

However, they had decided to take a merciful view and postpone the matter for a year. "We do so because, apart from this dishonest kink in his character, he appears otherwise to be an extremely efficient pharmacist". He had been given a suspended prison sentence by local magistrates, had told the court that because of his own illness and staff problems he had not been able to bank takings as frequently as the company required. When he came t check the money in his briefcase he four £234 missing; it must have been stol while he was ill. He made false entries t hide the discrepancy. The pharmacist to the Committee he had reimbursed the firn

Judgment was also postponed for a ye on a former deputy chief hospital pha macist. He was fined £50 by magistrat for stealing £51 from the hospital.

The Committee heard that he remove payment stamps, from old outpatient pr scription forms. He then took mon from a float kept to repay people wh bought the stamps in error. The £51 w repaid to the hospital before he appear in court.

In a statement the pharmacist said I had drugs at home worth £45 whic had been returned unopened to him by woman. He put these into hospital sto and took the price of the drugs from t float by introducing old stamps. His solic tor said it was an isolated incident, a he asked that the pharmacist, now worki for a private pharmacy, should be allow to remain on the Register. The chairma said the offence was "petty and mea but not one for "the extreme penalty striking off". Testimonials would be r quired in a year's time.

Mr Michael Ralph Elbogen, propriet of the Frystone Pharmacy at Aireda Yorks, was reprimanded following his co viction and £60 fine for failing to ma register entries of the purchase and supp of Dangerous Drugs.

Detective Sergeant George McKeati said that when he visited the pharma he noticed a batch of NHS prescriptio One was for a linctus classified as a Da gerous Drug, but he was unable to reco cile this purchase with entries in the sh register. He inspected the register furth and pointed out to Mr Elbogen certa drugs which had not been entered. T sergeant said he was certain that the was no question of drug abuse. He de cribed Mr Elbogen as "honest, but ha hazard and overworked".

Mr Elbogen told the Committee that the time he was working long hours a doing his own accounting. He had n reduced his opening hours, put his bu ness affairs into the hands of professio accountants, and had bought a new reg ter for Dangerous Drugs.

The Committee took no further acti in two cases reopened after a year.

Scottish Executive (from p 551)

Pharmaceutical General Council (Sc land) on March 20 felt "that there was general shortage of any medicine and would be inadvisable to exacerbate a local shortage by publicising the fac Television appeals had urged the pub to return empty medicine bottles.

The resident secretary had stressed t role of the pharmacist in health educati to the new director of the Scottish Hea Education Unit, Dr Player, and in p ticular the importance of consultati with the Society before any literature issued for distribution through pharmaci The Executive recommended to the U that literature in the treatment of head l campaign should be distributed by ph macies. The Executive also agreed in pr ciple to Dr Player's proposal for a wind sticker for pharmacies showing fam planning supplies were available.

elping pharmacists expand eir veterinary business

areas of the country are wide- for chemists to increase their sales profits from agricultural and veter- products. This assertion was made ne of the nearly 40 participants meeting called by the Agricultural Veterinary Pharmacy group of the naceutical Society last week. It was first of two meetings arranged so proprietor pharmacists interested in nding that section of their business see two general practice pharmacies n had done just that.

H. Jobson, a member of the group nittee, acted as host at his Longtown, berland, pharmacy. Group members ded from a wide area extending from deen to Staffordshire. Before moving ngtown where he took over a small ess with equally small premises, Mr n had no experience of the agricul- and veterinary side. Once he had ed to enter this field he looked arger premises which he eventually ht a little over a year ago. Previously as a co-operative grocery shop and the advantage of a side passage and sufficiently large to take most trucks vans. The fascia of the premises unces simply "Pharmacy"; Mr Job- name and that of his partner, Mr . Rostern, are in small letters at the one either side.

ne of the problems Mr Jobson had ettle was the location of the dis- ary because at the end of the shop were steps down to another large n which had been a warehouse.

g the dispensary

ead of taking the easier (and chea- way out by arranging the dispensary ne end of the front shop he decided te it on a stage on the same level as shop. One end thus protrudes into the room but at a height which does not fere with the new function of the n which is now a shop for farmers. can drive their tractors down the passage and load up their purchases ease; unloading of stock is equally . At the same time the sales area of pharmacy itself has not been cur- d and has resulted in a pharmacy considerably larger than the norm a village of 2,000 or so inhabitants.

r Rostern looks after the pharma- ical side while Mr Jobson concen- s on the farm side and travelling.

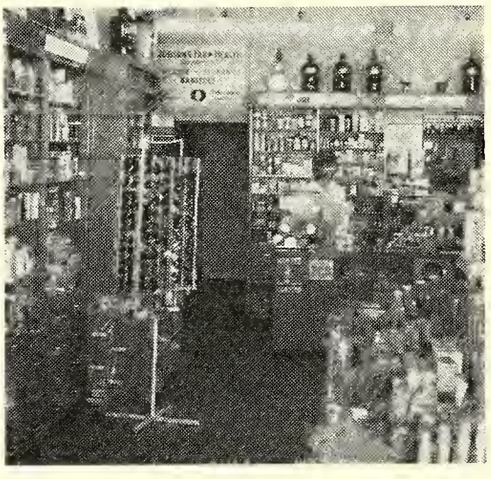
the pharmacy there is one window ng an almost complete view of the t shop and from another, there is uninterrupted view of the farm shop w. In the latter there is an illuminated push to call for attention so that in t periods there need not be anyone up there.

After showing members over the premises Mr Jobson told them that 20 years ago the pharmacist was the recognised authority for the supply of animal medicines. Since then much of the business had been lost. Now an opportunity occurred through the Medicines Act that certain animal medicines at present freely available must be sold through registered pharmacies. Mr Jobson said opposition to the proposed distribution came from some parts of the pharmaceutical industry, from veterinary surgeons and from the National Farmers Union. The NFU thought that if pharmacies had the "monopoly" it would be the end of "price-cutting" as operating today. He disagreed with that assumption.

"We must use the three years before the introduction of this proposed legislation to gain knowledge and show that we are capable of proper professional control of sales". Emerging from the discussion which followed it appeared that a suitable text book and a postgraduate course on the subject were urgently required but doubt was expressed as to the possibility of getting suitably qualified lecturers with the necessary practical experience. To obtain initial knowledge of farming terms and farmers' requirements it was necessary to spend a month or so on a farm, preferably one in the area in which one's business was situated. To obtain orders it was best to go to the farm "preferably in the afternoon". Should accounts be rendered monthly or three-monthly? Monthly was the answer; the incidence of VAT had mostly expedited settlement of accounts said one member and another advised a personal approach to the farmers where settlements were usually dilatory. What kind of co-operation can be expected from the makers? Usually 100 per cent; data sheets of new products were more prolific than the equivalent for human medicines. It was generally agreed that because of distribution costs a central or national group buying organisation was not an economic proposition. A local group was a different matter and depended on circumstances. When starting up a farmer's department stock up gradually and eventually specialise in those sections for which there is most demand in the locality.

☐ The second meeting for group members was being held in the South of England at Stony Stratford, Bucks, on May 1 at the pharmacy of Mr W. P. B. Phillpotts.

☐ Members of the group will by now have received biographical details and policy statements of candidates standing for this years election of the committee. They are: Sydney Bootland, Gordon H. V. Campbell, Christopher D. Clarke, Peter J. Copus, Harold Jobson, William P. B. Phillpotts, and Vernon Thompson.



Immediately above is the Longtown pharmacy's front shop; the dispensary is behind the facing wall with window just visible on right. The opening on left provides an access down steps to the farm shop (centre picture). Another window in the dispensary, seen at left, gives the view of this area shown in the top illustration. The "cabinet" in centre is a glass-fronted refrigerator for vaccines, etc.

International cosmestics congress

The International Federation of Societies of Cosmetic Chemists is to hold their international congress in London this year.

The subject is "Cosmetics—quality and safety" and the event will take place at Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane, W1, August 26-30. Details are available from: the general secretary, Society of Cosmetic Chemists of Great Britain, 56 Kingsway, London WC2B 6DX.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland

Licensing regulations for manufacturers to be introduced?

The Irish Minister for Health proposes to introduce regulations for the licensing of manufacturers of medical preparations in the Republic, following consultations with the National Health Council.

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland was told at its April meeting that the Minister also intends to bring the provisions of EEC Directive 65/65 into force before June 30. The Directive allows for the progressive application of its provisions over a period of five years and the intention is to confine the relevant regulations in the first place only to products coming on the market after January 1 this year.

The Minister's moves were given a cautious welcome by members. Mr M. F. Walsh pointed out that the Society was doing everything possible to encourage a modern approach to the question of medicines legislation; piecemeal regulations did not represent the best approach. It was decided to refer the draft regulations to the Commitee on Medicines Legislation for detailed examination.

Veterinary medicines

Mr R. J. Power reported on the EEC veterinary medicines conference held recently in Dublin, where there was strong representation from the veterinary profession and from the pharmaceutical industry. Many speakers emphasised the right of veterinarians to sell veterinary medicines to the owners of animals they treat, as well as to administer drugs in the course of treatment. "The Society must resist a tendency to draw a clear distinction between veterinary medicines and medicines for human use", said Mr Power. "We should press ahead and secure agreement with the Department of Health on an acceptable overall policy towards pharmacy".

Mr Butler suggested that pharmacists should consider the wisdom of "phasing-out" veterinary medicines and to concentrate on their role in the Health Services. Mr M. L. Cashman said that pharmacists had a traditional function in Ireland to supply medicines whether human or veterinary. It was very much in the public interest that they should continue their dual responsibilities in this regard.

A letter was received from the Society's Law Adviser, Mr John Gaynor, LIB, informing the Council that he was no longer in a position to act on behalf of the Society. Pressure of work in his office made it increasingly difficult to deal with the Society's business, involving as it did, absences from his rooms from time to time. It was decided to advertise for a successor.

Mr T. McGuinn submitted a report from a committee, which had been set-up under his chairmanship, to draft a Guide to Good Pharmaceutical Practice. The report dealt with issues such as suitability and cleanliness of premises, equipment, supervision by qualified staff, storage, labelling and packaging and records. The report was adopted and it was agreed that a meeting should be arranged with representatives of the Postgraduate Education Committee, the Practice of Pharmacy Committee and the Pharmaceutical Union to decide on the best means of developing the deas in the report. Mr McGuinn explained that this study was intended merely as the first stage in a continuing process whereby various aspects of pharmaceutical practice would be evaluated in the light of modern thinking.

Mr Walsh said that pharmacsts who improved their pharmacies or who invested in new equipment should be entitled to adaption grants such as are available to the medical profession. Mr M. Shannon said that some pharmacists were not clear about the direction in which pharmacy was moving; Mr McGuinn and his committee were setting the correct guidelines for future development.

Arising out of the Law Committee Report, it was decided to institute proceedings against four companies for breaches of the Poisons and Pharmacy Acts.

The registrar reported on the deaths of Sylvester Downing, LPSI, Vincent P. Mangan, MPSI, Patrick J. Walsh, MPSI.

Adrenaline eye drops

Miss Teresa Landers referred to a circular letter which had been sent to pharmacists by the North Western Health Board concerning prescriptions for adrenaline eye drops issued at the Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital, Dublin. The letter was confusing since it referred to laeva rotatory adrenaline bitartrate 1 per cent or 2 per cent and she was grateful to the chief pharmacist of the hospital for clarifying the positon: the formula is on page eight of Extra Pharmacopoeia, Martindale (26th edition); alternatively, the preparation is available commercially as sterile adrenaline eye drops 1 per cent (Chemthicals) equivalent to 1·82 per cent of adrenaline acid bitartrate.

The president, Mr R. J. Semple, reported on a preliminary meeting which had taken place with Mr R. T. Phelan, chairman, and Mr P. Delaney, joint-secretary, of the local organising committee for the 1974 Pharmaceutical Congress. The event will be held at the Ardee Hotel, Waterford, from Sunday evening October 6 to Thursday morning October 10 and the Waterford pharmacists had already made accommodation arrangements with local hotels. He would convene a meeting within the next few weeks to discuss the scientific and professional programme. Following talks with the president of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland, it had been arranged that pharmacists in the nor would be included in the mailing list f brochures and programmes. Full deta would be published early in the summ

The following were elected as me bers: Eileen Teresa Cronin, LPSI, Bisho town, Cork; Mary M. Joy, LPSI, Silv spring, Clonmel, co Tipperary; Jeremi C. Houlihan, LPSI, Castleconne Limerick; Catherine F. P. Leahy, LP Limerick; Margaret M. McAdams, LP Clontarf, Dublin 3; Mary C. McKe (nee Moran) LPSI, Swords, co Dubli Denis McLaughlin, LPSI, Blackrock, Dublin; Colette Melvin, LPSI, Milltov Dublin 6; Mary O'Donoghue, LPSI, Tua co Galway; Margaret Nagle, LPSI, Ke co Meath; Michael F. McGourty, LP Dundalk, co Louth.

The following addresses were chang in the Society's Registers: Mr Geoffr Keogh, MPSI, to Plassey Ave, Corbal Limerick; Mr Thomas Leahy, MPSI, 139 Ard-Na-Mara, Malahide; Mr Patri M. Quigley, MPSI, to 128 Navan Ro Dublin 7; Mrs Agnes V. Murray (r Moran) to Mone, co Kildare.

The following names were changed the Register, marriage certificates havi been submitted: Mary T. Langan (r Kilroy) Assistant, Newport, co Ma Bridgid Farrell (nee Finnerty) Assista Navan, co Meath.

Directory amendments

The following changes have occur since the 1974 Directory, now being issu went to press:—

Bremner-White Ltd (p 109). New addre Throckley Industrial Estate, Pontela Road, Throckley, Newcastle upon T NE15 9ES. Tel: 0632 672311

Dawson & Barfos (Manufacturing) l (p 114). Now: Vickers-Dawson (a divis of Vickers Ltd Engineering Grou Gomersal Works, Gomersal, Cleckheat Yorks BD19 4LQ. Tel: 097 62 34 Telex: 51347

Harker Stagg Ltd (p 120). New addre P.O. Box 23, Bracknell, Berks RG12 4 (Acquired by Boehringer Ingelheim Ltd

Hill's Pharmaceuticals Ltd (p 1 New address: Talbot Street, Briercli Burnley, Lancs BB10 2JY. Tel: Re sales 0282 25932; hospital: 0282 2595

Hormo-Pharma Ltd (p 121). New addr Hadley House, 139 Lewisham High Str London SE13 6BN. Tel: 01-852 332 & 4212/3

Macfarlan Smith Ltd (p 126). All cor pondence to: Wheatfield Road, Edinbu EH11 2QA. Tel: 031 337 2434 (Not London Area)

Richards & Appleby Ltd (p 134). N address: 36 Albemarle Street, Lon W1X 3FB. Tel: 01-499 5743/4

Schering Chemicals Ltd (pp 103, 13 284). Add postal code: RH15 9NE

Smith Kendon Ltd (pp 136 & 285). N address: Waterton, Bridgend, Glamor Tel: 0656 58011

Tidman & Son Ltd (p 139). New t phone: 0621 53315

WB Pharmaceuticals Ltd (pp 103 & 1 New address: PO Box 23, Brackn Berks RG12 4YS

Wolverhampton Minerals Ltd (pp & 288). New address: Arden Street, St ford upon Avon, Warwicks. Tel: 0 66241

Company News

ST press Glaxo for ogressive salary scales

osals for new "progressive career" y scales which could mean salary in- ses of up to 20 per cent for scientists engineers employed by the Glaxo lings Ltd have been put forward by Association of Professional Scientists Technologists (APST). A feature of proposed scales would be to greatly ove career prospects by raising iate salary levels to £8,000 for those pting executive responsibilities.

ie proposals follow a petition signed more than 80 per cent of senior tific staff and engineers at Glaxo's rston plant in Lancashire asking APST iake representations to the company alaries.

ve basic scales are proposed, each with mum conditions of entry according to ifications and experience, and each annual salary increases designed to ct the increasing contribution made to company by scientists and engineers as experience develops.

rdley's success Czechoslovakia

dley of London was the only British to win a Gold Medal at the Brno strial consumer goods trade fair which d at Brno, Czechoslovakia, this week. ut of a total of 584 entries from 14 itries who entered only 27 gained the rd, 22 of them going to Eastern Euro- countries. Yardley was awarded the al for high quality of product pack- g and presentation of its international care range.

eeff sell shares

eff-Chemicals Holdings Ltd have sold 0,000 Preference shares in 3M United gdom Ltd being half their holding of shares in that company. The net pro- s are £1,917,000 subject to capital s tax. The proceeds will be invested produce a substantial increase in the me which was approximately £54,000 ar.

ntex in Ireland

iew pharmaceutical company, Syntex nd Ltd, has been established by the ex Corporation of Mexico, and a 000 sq ft manufacturing plant for the company is to be built in co Clare, nd.

reparation of the site started recently phase one is expected to be completed September 1975 at a capital investment 4½m. The company's production — all export — is to include naproxen and al steroids. Some 300 men, including raduates, will be required initially, but the staff is later expected to total 500. Dr John Day has been appointed managing director of the company.

The Industrial Development Authority of Ireland, a state-sponsored organisation, is participating in the project. Part of the IDA's policy is to encourage firms, particularly pharmaceutical companies, to undertake Irish-based research, and to that end Syntex Ireland is to have its own research and development unit.

Briefly

The business of **NPU Marketing Ltd** has now been transferred to the wholly-owned subsidiary, Independent Chemists Marketing Ltd who will take over any contracts made with NPU Marketing.

Cleverly (Chemists) Ltd, Cheltenham, acquired the business of C. F. Thorne (Chemists) Ltd, 34 High Street, Corsham, Wilts, on May 1. Correspondence for Mr Thorne should now be addressed to his private address: 84 Pickwick Road, Corsham.

Smith & Nephew Associated Companies Ltd's first quarter trading results will show that progress is being maintained said the chairman, Mr S. N. Steen, at last week's annual meeting. He also promised an early statement on the purchase of that part of Gala shares not already owned by S. & N.

Unichem Ltd arranged an "open day" at its depot at Kingston-on-Thames recently when 130 of its chemist customers and their assistants attended. Mr L. Thomas, 46, has been appointed sales representative with the organisation's Willesden depot.

L. Oertling Ltd, Cray Valley Works, St. Mary Cray, Orpington, Kent, have signed a sales and service contract to market in the UK and Ireland, the full range of electromicrobalances manufactured by Cahn instrument Co, California, United States.

Forbes Campbell Ltd, a finance and exporting group, have acquired Lakeside Laboratories Ltd from the Weston Group. Lakeside Laboratories have been associated with Barclay Fine Chemicals Ltd for a number of years at its Rawdon plant and recently has concentrated on the export market. Barclay Fine Chemicals will remain the manufacturing contractor for Lakeside products. Forbes Campbell is planning to retain Lakeside at Rawdon and expand its export activities through their overseas subsidiaries.

North Eastern Co-operative Chemists Ltd's turnover for the year ended January 12, was £1·5m.

Mr Edward Newman, a director of Laughton and Sons Ltd, discussing new designs for compacts with Joanne Abraham of BBC Radio Birmingham for the programme "Factory Spin" broadcast on April 29.

Appointments

Colotrend Ltd have appointed Mr R. Hitchens their sales director.

International Chemical Co Ltd have appointed Miss Ann Hoare product manager of their toiletry brands.

Sperry Rand's Remington electric shave division have appointed Mr R. Huxtable salesman for the South Wales area of their Midland Region.

Lancastria Co-op Pharmacy have appointed Mr J. Collier wholesale co-ordinator for the sixteen pharmacies operated by the Society.

Mawson & Proctor Pharmaceuticals Ltd: Following the retirement of Mr A. McGuckin (see p 545) Mr L. R. Renwick, FPS who has been his deputy for a number of years has been appointed managing director with Mr T. S. Mensley his deputy.

Coming events

Monday, May 6

Brighton and Hove Branch, Pharmaceutical Society, Langfords Hotel, Brighton, at 8 pm. Discussion of Branch Representative's motions.

Stockport Branch, Pharmaceutical Society, Alma Lodge Hotel, Stockport, at 8 pm. Annual meeting.

Tuesday, May 7

Cornwall Branch, Pharmaceutical Society, Victoria Hotel, Newquay, at 7.45 pm. Mr C. Morris-Cox and Mr D. L. Barnes on "The NPU national voluntary trading organisation—the facts"

Doncaster Branch, Pharmaceutical Society, Rockingham Arms Hotel, Bennetthorpe, at 8 pm. Annual meeting.

Leeds Branch, Pharmaceutical Society, Wetherby Turnpike Motor Inn, Wetherby Roundabout, Wetherby, Yorks, at 8.15 pm. Annual meeting.

Liverpool Branch, Pharmaceutical Society, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool, at 7.45 pm. Annual meeting.

Oxfordshire Branch, Pharmaceutical Society, Oxford Motel, at 7 pm. Annual meeting.

Wednesday, May 8

Swansea and West Glamorgan Branch, Pharmaceutical Society, Dragon Hotel, Swansea, at 8 pm. Annual meeting.

Worthing and West Sussex Branch, Pharmaceutical Society, Beach Hotel, Worthing, at 8 pm. Annual meeting.

Thursday, May 9

Royal Society of Health, Pharmaceutical group, Caxton Hall, Westminster, at 7.30 pm. Lecture by Mr A. G. Fishburn on "Licensing under the Medicine's Act and its effect on pharmacy".

Market News

CHINESE PRICES UP

London, April 30: Repercussions from the high prices now being quoted by the Chinese at the Canton Fair were felt in the essential oil market this week and were even greater than in the previous week when the Fair opened. *Arvensis* peppermint oil was being quoted from China at £16·00kg against last week's £10·30 — itself a record "high". Brazil has followed the lead but not to the same extent and dealers believe that there is still some way to go before a turn-round can be expected. Menthol obviously followed the same pattern. Chinese anise oil remained on offer on the spot at £26·00 per kg but origin was asking £33·00, cif. Also dearer were Chinese eucalyptus and spearmint.

In crude drugs all the balsams are firm in the face of diminishing stocks. Matto Grosso ipecacuanha, podophyllum, nutmegs and gentian root were all dearer. Cloves were easier.

Bismuth salts, ether and a number of the more recently introduced pharmaceutical chemicals were marked up.

Pharmaceutical chemicals

Bacitracin zinc: £0·15 per 50,000 iu.
Bismuth salts: £ per kg.

	under 50-kg	50-kg	250-kg
carbonate	9·18	8·95	8·90
salicylate	7·68	7·45	—
subgallate	8·13	7·90	—
subnitrate	8·33	8·10	8·05

Chloramphenicol palmitate: £30·00 per kg.
Cortisone: Acetate £295 kg.
Dapsone: £4·00 per kg.
Deltacortisone: £350 per kg.
Dexamethasone: £3·50 kg.
Ether: Anaesthetic BP 2-litre bottles £1·15 each; 130-kg drums £0·60½ kg. Solvent BP — per metric ton in 130-kg drums £382 metric ton.
Hydrocortisone: Acetate and base £295 kg.
Methyl testosterone: £170 per kg.
Neomycin sulphate: 5-kg lots £36·00 kg.
Oestradiol benzoate: £600 per kg.
PAS sodium: £1·40 kg.
Penicillin: Potassium, sodium of procaine, sterile £9 per 1,000 Mu for 5-25,000 Mu lots.
Progesterone: £100 per kg.
Sodium benzoate: One-metric ton lots £283·30.
Sodium bicarbonate: BP £30·21 per 1,000 kg minimum 10-metric ton lots delivered London.
Sodium chloride: Vacuum dried £8·73 per 1,000 kg in plastic sacks for 10-metric ton lots, ex works.
Sodium citrate: Granular £360·00 per metric ton in 250-kg lots. Powder, £370·30.
Sodium percarbonate: (per metric ton) £170·75.
Sodium potassium tartrate: £315 per metric ton.
Sodium salicylate: Per kg in 5-metric ton lots £0·54; 1-ton £0·55; 250-kg £0·56½; 50-kg £0·59.
Sodium sulphate: BP crystals £44·65 metric ton; commercial £19·30; anhydrous £48·00 (approx). All ex works.
Sodium thiosulphate: £55 per metric ton.
Stilboestrol: BP in 25-kilo lots £56·00 kg.
Streptomycin: £11·00 kg base; dihydrostreptomycin £11·50 kg base.
Succinylsulphathiazole: 50-kg lots £2·40 kg.
Sulphacetamide sodium: BP £4·13 kg in 50 kg lots.
Sulphadiazine: 50-kg lots £4·15 kg micro milled plus £0·15.
Sulphaguanidine: BPC in 250-kg lots £2·13 kg.
Sulphamerazine: BP 50-kg lots £3·12½ per kg.
Sulphanilamide: 50-kg lots £1·40 kg.
Sulphaquinoxaline: Sodium, BVetC in 50-kg £4·38 per kg.
Sulphathiazole: 50-kg £1·83 kg.
Sulphamethizole: BP 50-kg lots £4·57.
Testosterone: and propionate £170 kg.
Tetracycline hydrochloride: £12·00 per kg.
L-Thyroxine: £1·25 per kg.
L-Triiodothyronine sodium: £2·50 per g.

Crude drugs

Balsams: (kg) **Canada:** nominal. **Copaiba:** £3·00 kg spot. **Peru:** £650, cif. **Tolu:** £3·30 £3·20 cif.
Cloves: (Per ton, cif)—Ceylon £2,540; Mad car £2,365; Zanzibar £2,550.
Cochineal: Peruvian £12·50 kg spot.
Gentian: Root £1·60 kg afloat; £1·55, cif.
Ginger: (ton cif) Cochin £505; Sierra Leone Nigerian split £545 peeled £700 nominal.
Hydrastis: £9·70 kg spot; £9·50, cif.
Ipecacuanha: (kg) Costa Rican £3·50 spot; cif. Matto Grosso £6·50 spot. Colombian £5·15, cif.
Lanolin: Anhydrous BP minimum 1,000 kg £474 as to grade; cosmetic £543; technical
Menthol: Brazilian £21·50 kg spot; £22·00-£ cif. Chinese £32·00, cif, asked.
Nutmeg: (ton, cif) East India 80's £1,530; £1,455; bwp £1,215 Granada not offering.
Pepper: (ton cif) Sarawak black £670; £970.
Podophyllum: Emodi (metric ton) £460, s

Essential oils

Anise: £28·00 kg spot; £33·00, cif.
Clove: Madagascar leaf about £4·00 kg, cif.
Cinnamon: Ceylon leaf £4·50 kg; bark, E distilled £170·00 kg.
Citronella: Ceylon £9·00 kg spot and cif.
Eucalyptus: Chinese £9·00 kg, cif, 80-85 per
Peppermint: (kg) Arvensis-Brazilian spot £9· spot and cif. Chinese no spot, shipment £ cif, asked. Piperata American from £19·00.
Spearmint: Chinese £9·00 kg, cif; Am £11·00 spot.

The prices given are those obtained by imp or manufacturers for bulk quantities and c include value added tax. They represent th quoted or accepted prices as we go to pre it should be noted that in the present st the markets quotations change frequently.

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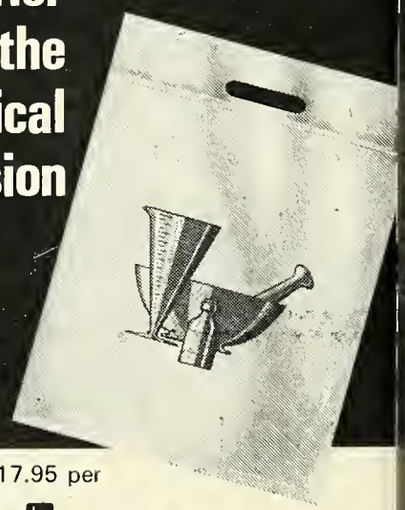

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Classified Advertisements

Post to Classified Advertisements, Chemist & Druggist, 25 New Street Square, London, EC4A 3JA

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Publication date Every Saturday.

Headings All advertisements appear under appropriate headings.

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Circulation ABC January/December 1972, 14,992.

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Classified Advertisements

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Branch Manager,

Vestric Limited

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Tel: Welwyn Garden 23456.

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NORTH MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL
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EC4A 3JA
Tel 01-353 3212

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Our Rep. for the U/M territories has recently retired. Andre Philippe would consider early replacements — either fully experienced rep. or agents. TERRITORIES:— London Postal Districts EC1 to EC4, E1 to E18, Essex, Norfolk, Suffolk, Beds. Write in first instance to: Sales Director, Andre Philippe Ltd., 69-71b, Gowan Avenue, London, SW6 6RJ or Tel: 01-736 2194/2397.

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Telex: 23825 Cables: ANGLODAL London